

Dear Mr. Mulholland,

According to the list of Town owned properties published in the most recent Town Report, the total value of Town owned land in Riverside Park amounts to over a half million dollars as of now. Its value in the near and distant future can only be speculated upon. It is land, after all. Ownership of Riverside Drive (aka Lot 00034 on Map 00104) would cede to the Town total control of the real estate property listed in said report.

If Allenstown is to gain this control of the Town owned Riverside Park properties published in said Town Report, it would be prudent to delay the execution of the tax lien on Lot 000034/Riverside Drive, thus avoiding the possibility of unnecessarily endangering access to said properties. Publishing a lien on the lot/road would expose it to any one of the countless lien purchase speculators who might not have the Town's and their residents' best interests at heart.

(Is it even legal to designate a road as a lot, implying it is configured so as to accommodate the building of a home, and to assign it a lot number and an arbitrary value?)

On the site plan for Riverside Park, dated December, 1959, there is no indication of the width of Riverside Drive. The site plan must have been submitted by Romeo Plourde to the Town and approved. Approval of the original site plan would imply acceptance at the time, despite the lack of any specific indication regarding the road's proposed width.

Making the road wider in order to comply with more recent requirements may not be possible. Some residents may be reluctant to give up frontage on their lots. They'd also have to have new deeds drawn up, reflecting their sacrifice in granting a portion of their diminished holdings to the Town in order to conform with current requirements.

It must have been much easier for those who created JillEric Road. They apparently had both more room and more money to turn their end of Riverside Drive into JillEric Road. It never occurred to them that maybe Jane and I owned the road. They certainly never consulted us. They believed, as did we as well as those living on the road, that the Town owned Riverside Drive.

It may be that back in the late Fifties, when Mr. Plourde was laying out the plans for the Park and for the proposed road, Riverside Drive, it must have been considered wide enough. If that was so at the time, then whatever width the road is now should be 'grandfathered in', thus precluding any subsequent requirements which cannot be met without the consent of all landowners.

All residents want is winter access to the homes they are paying taxes on, that is, what has been the status quo for at least the past half century. They believe, and will continue to believe, that Allenstown, the town to which they pay taxes, owns the road. Please make it so.

Respectfully submitted by William A. and Mary J. Dobe, August 7, 2017.
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